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Justice

International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union
(ILGWU)

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Justice (Vol. 2, Iss. 24)

International Ladies Garment Workers Union (ILGWU)

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International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, ILGWU, labor unions, clothing workers, textile workers, garment workers, garment industry, New York, United States

Comments

Justice was the official publication of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union ILGWU from 1919 to 1995. Editions of *Justice* were published in English, Italian, Spanish, and Yiddish. When compared side by side, the content of some of these different editions of *Justice* shows significant differences. This is the English-language edition of *Justice*.

"My righteous-
ness I hold
fast, and will
not let it go."
— Job. 37(A.)

JUSTICE

"We ought to
be just even to
our enemies."
— Pres. Wilson.

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL LADIES GARMENT WORKERS UNION.

VOL. II, No. 24.

New York, Friday, June 11, 1920.

Price: 2 Cents

TORONTO CLOAKMAKERS SCORE VICTORY

New Agreement Between Toronto Cloakmakers and Manufacturers Averts Conflict and Provides for Week Work with Minimum Wage Scales.

The new agreement between the Cloakmakers' Union of Toronto, Canada and the Manufacturers' Association of that city means a big victory for the workers. There were rumors for some time that the expiration of the old agreement would bring about a strike or lockout in the industry which would result in suffering to the workers of Toronto. But after several conferences between the Union and the Toronto Cloak Manufacturers' Protective Association the impending conflict was averted and a new agreement signed.

This new agreement provides for the introduction of week work in the entire trade on the basis of a 44-hour working week with definite minimum wage scales for the workers in all branches of the industry.

The following are the minimum wage scales per week provided by the new agreement:

First class cutters	\$42.00
Second class cutters	40.00
Assistant cutters	35.00
Cloak operators	47.50
Skirt operators	46.00
Sample operators	40.00
Pressers	45.00
Underpressers	38.00
Finishers	32.00
Apprentices	30.00
Button sewers	25.00

Under the agreement the Union, of course, is recognized, and the Manufacturers' Association binds itself to make no discriminations whatsoever against Union members, particularly against active Union members. The agreement also provides for the establishment of an Arbitration Board of five members, two of whom are to represent the Union, two are to represent the Association and an impartial chairman selected by both parties which should be the final tribunal for the settlement of controversies.

After the agreement between the representatives of the Union and the Manufacturers' Association was reached, a general membership meeting was called on May 23, in the National Theatre where the entire agreement was submitted for the approval of the workers. After a full examination of the terms of the agreement the workers unanimously endorsed it. The agreement came into effect on June 1.

This settlement is doubtless a great victory for the cloakmakers of Toronto. It must be remembered that the manufacturers have for a long time stubbornly fought the Union. The fact that the aristocratic Association was bound to sign an agreement with the Union shows its great power.

The agreement was signed by

ST. LOUIS CLOAKMAKERS PRESENT NEW DEMANDS

The Joint Board of the Cloakmakers' Union of St. Louis, Mo. last week presented new demands to the manufacturers of that city. The conference between the representatives of the Union and the manufacturers which were held thus far are promising that the controversy will be amicably settled.

Before going to the meeting of the General Executive Board held at Montreal, President Schlesinger proceeded to St. Louis where he helped to formulate the demands of the workers. These demands were submitted to the cloakmakers at the large membership meeting which was held last Monday evening in Fraternal Building. It was a large and enthusiastic meeting which showed that the workers are fully determined to fight for their demands to a victorious issue.

The demands are as follows:

1. The establishment of week work for the entire trade.
2. A 44-hour week.

3. A definite minimum wage scale for all the workers in the various trades and branches of the industry. The minimum scale that the Union demands is approximately the same as that of the New York cloak industry.

The workers have enthusiastically endorsed these demands and expressed their determination to fight to the last for their achievement. President Schlesinger was received with great enthusiasm by the members. He spoke of the general industrial conditions in the country and pointed out how the workers have been cheated and exploited under the false guise of the employers that it is the "high wages" of the workers that is responsible for all the evils. He then spoke of the situation in the cloak industry with particular reference to the demands of the St. Louis cloakmakers. The spirit at the meeting was one of confidence in the justice of the demands.

A conference between the representatives of the Union and the manufacturers (Continued on Page 7)

UNITY HOUSE OPENS SATURDAY, JUNE 12

Mr. Lampert, the new manager of the Waistmakers' Unity House in Forest Park, Pa., has telegraphed to the office of the Union in New York to the effect that "everything is in order." This brief but significant message will doubtless be greeted with joy by those who spent their vacation in Unity House last Summer. And those who were not so fortunate will be sure not to miss this chance now.

For everybody knows what Unity House stands for. There were some who paid a short visit to that wonderful place on Decoration Day. There are others who read the letters and articles about it. Others again must have heard by word of mouth about the wonders of Unity. It would be strange indeed to find any waist or dress maker, or any other worker who never heard anything about it. And what they heard must have been inspiring. It must have stirred them up to an intense longing to go and spend their vacation there.

What does the Unity House stand for? It depends whom you approach with this question. Some say that it is the beautiful lakes and falls and mountain walks that attract them. Others say that it is the genial spirit, the freedom and comradeship prevailing there.

J. P. Winters and L. Waldman, president and secretary of the Toronto Cloak Manufacturers' Protective Association, and H. Kruger and S. Koldofsky president and manager respectively of the Joint Board of the Cloakmakers' Union.

There may be some who find this place a tonic for their wrecked nerves. Then there is a class of people who cannot enjoy anything unless they find problems, tendencies and movements over which to ponder. And these people are more than gratified by a visit to Unity House. They find there an illuminating example of co-operation, of labor control and administration, of the way the housing and food problems are handled, and a score of other problems. "Justice" is in receipt of a flood of letters and poems and short stories which were inspired by Unity House. It is very significant. Unity breaks up the crust that grows with city life. It loosens up people. It makes them talk. There are as many impressions of Unity as there are visitors, and all are beautiful and inspiring.

But Unity House, big as it is, can accommodate a limited number of people at a given time. And there are 30 thousand waist and dress makers alone. No member, of course, will miss the opportunity of spending their vacation in her own summer home. But how will it be possible to accommodate so large a membership? Simply by registration. Every member of the Waistmakers' Union who intends to spend their vacation at the Unity House will have to register at the office of the Waistmakers' Union at once. Whether the member intends to spend their vacation in June, July or August, he must register now.

Register at the Waist and Dress Makers' Union, 16 West 21st St., Room A.

JUDGE LEVY TO ANSWER CHARGES OF THE UNION

Appellate Division of the Supreme Court Rules that Judge Aaron J. Levy Must Answer to Charges of the International within Twenty Days.

As was reported a few weeks ago in Justice the International has begun a suit of trial against Judge Aaron J. Levy asking for his impeachment on the ground that the Judge was engaged outside of his judicial duties in the manufacture of women's garments. The venerable Judge was oblivious most of the time of anything outside of tailoring. He was first and foremost a manufacturer of garments and to that he devoted his time and talents.

The International had sufficient evidence to back up this charge. There was one very illuminating and incontestable fact that the august Judge was something more than a passive shareholder in the firm of Milgrim Brothers. He conferred, negotiated, higgled and bargained with the workers of that firm in an attempt to establish certain working conditions. And when a strike was declared by Local 80 against the unspeakable conditions in the shop owned by the firm, the Judge undertook a stubborn and uncompromising campaign against the Union using every underhand weapon to attain his end. He fought the workers unscrupulously forgetting thereby, that he also occupies another office outside of cloak manufacturing.

The International through its lawyer, Mr. Wallstein, brought charges against Judge Levy to this effect. Mr. Wallstein argued that it is unlawful for a Judge to be engaged in business, even if it is the manufacture of garments, and asked that Judge Levy be removed from the bench, in short, that he be impeached.

Judge Levy, of course, objected to the charge of Mr. Wallstein. He met the arguments of the Union's lawyer with all the legal quibbles at his command. First, he tried the very popular stunt. He said that the charges against him is another case of a Bolshevik attempt to threaten the safety of the land. It is the red menace, the Tenants' League and a couple of other terrible things. Then he tried to controvert and finally crush the arguments of Mr. Wallstein by resorting to the realm of pure law. The Appellate Division of the Supreme Court, said the august Judge, has no jurisdiction over this case. It has absolutely no right to interfere in this case.

But the Judge of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court has ruled that Judge Levy must answer to the charges of the International within twenty days, which fact is in itself a victory for the Union.

TOPICS OF THE WEEK

The Convention of the A. F. of L.

LAST Monday, June 7, the Fortieth Annual Convention of the American Federation of Labor opened in Montreal, Canada. From the Report of the Executive Council, parts of which are printed elsewhere in this issue, and the opening address of Samuel Gompers, it is clear that this convention will not usher in a new era in the labor movement of this country.

In his keynote speech Gompers declared that "I do not know any body of men that is so out of harmony with the so-called 'Internationale' as the American Federation of Labor." Labor must "hold itself in leash" and "use its power with moderation. No matter how advanced some of us may be we must keep time with the most backward. No one can destroy our movement, but ourselves." Any attempt to enforce compulsory labor "must be counted at any cost. I have no fear as to what the results will be," and so forth.

Among the questions which will come before the convention are the Federation's non-partisan political program for electing "friends" and defeating "enemies" of labor; the negative policy of the Congress; the Cummins-Esch railroad bill and anti-trust legislation; the Kansas industrial court act; injunctions; Palmer's raids on labor; the high cost of living, profiteering, and low wages, etc.

After the close of the first session of the convention Samuel Gompers proceeded to Chicago to appear before the Platform Committee of the Republican Party to present labor's demands on the party. In spite of the age-long threat to "punish the enemy and reward the friend" Gompers' planks will not be adopted by the Republican convention. On the contrary, Governor Allen's anti-strike law will very likely be adopted by the convention as a national policy.

It is very likely that Gompers will fail in his mission with the G. O. P. at Chicago, and he will have to proceed a few weeks later to the San Francisco convention of the Democratic Party, the party of Woodrow Wilson and Attorney-General Palmer. If the A. F. of L. policy is truly "non-partisan," Gompers should have taken his planks to the Socialist and Labor parties.

Two fraternal representatives have come from the British Trade Union Congress. They are J. W. Ogden, president of the Weavers' Amalgamated Association, and J. Jones, Member of Parliament, president of the National Union of General Workers.

Addresses of welcome were delivered by representatives of the Canadian Government, and the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada.

The opening of the convention at Montreal did not reveal any new forces. Like the preceding convention, the A. F. of L. will denounce radicalism and autocracy in the same breath. But nothing else. It will stop after having verbally thrashed these two forces.

The Republican Convention at Chicago

THE Republican National Convention opened last Tuesday, June 8, in Chicago. Whether the presidential nominee

will be Senator Johnson, General Wood, Governor Lowden or any of the large number of dark horses, one thing is certain that the G. O. P. will dictate a program by which the candidate will have to abide. In fact, the confusion which appears on the surface of the Republican convention is in part to screen the actual workings of a small clique of politicians. It is partly attributed to the fact that the Party is afraid lest some candidates, like Johnson or Hoover, may prove too independent for party discipline. Another point which is certain is that the Republican Party has a well defined policy for the protection and defense of Wall Street interests. The bustle is only a case of picking the right man. It is not a question of program. The so-called "issues" are only designed to bamboozle the voters.

Senator Lodge in his keynote speech outlined the program of the Republican Party. It consists in merely pointing out the blunders of the Democratic Party. The mistakes of Wilson seem to be the only excuse for electing a Republican President. Some of the points of Lodge's speech are characteristic: Wilson and his "dynasty" were driven from power by a "stronger" policy he regarded as "Socialist." Defeat the "Socialist proclivities of the White House." So far the convention has not declared itself on the Allen anti-strike law. But it is predicted that the Allen plank will be adopted, and that no special efforts will be made to capture the labor vote.

The Railroad Workers and Congress

CONGRESS adjourned last Saturday after an extraordinary session. It was strenuous because it was busy — doing nothing. Gompers called it a "No Congress." President Wilson chanted Amen. Yet Warren S. Stone and the leaders of seventeen railroad unions protested against its adjournment on the ground that such action would invite "political chaos and business disaster," and insisted that Congress should remain in session. "A copy of the telegram of protest was sent to Congress, Senate and the President. One does not always agree with the President, but this time he struck the nail on the head when he said that the continuance of Congress in session would not in any way help matters. And the President paraphrases Gompers' indictment of Congress as follows:

"In nine months this congress has, however, taken no important remedial action with respect to the problem of the cost of living. Not only has the present Congress failed to deal directly with the cost of living, but it has failed even to give serious consideration to the urgent appeal, oft repeated by me and by the Secretaries of the Treasury, to revise the tax laws which in their present form are indirectly responsible in part for the high cost of living."

"The protracted delay in dealing with the problem of the railroads, the problem of the Government-owned merchant marine and other similar urgent matters has resulted in unnecessary burdens upon the public treasury, and ultimately in legislation so unsatisfactory that I could accept it, if at all, only because I despaired of anything better."

"The present Congress has not only prevented the conclusion of peace in Europe, but has failed to present any constructive plan for dealing with the deplorable conditions there, the continuance of which can only reflect upon us," etc., etc.

It must be pointed out, however, that the same indictment may be made with equal justice be directed against the President and his administration, or more correctly, maladministration. The railroad brotherhoods are far from being satisfied with the action of the Railroad Labor Board which was created by the President. B. M. Jewell of the American Federation of Labor, said telegrams were flooding the offices of the various brotherhood locals now in Chicago warning them that unless prompt action was taken by the Labor Board the men "would act themselves."

The New York State Labor Party Convention

THE convention of the American Labor Party of New York State recently held at Schenectady laid the groundwork for active participation by New York labor in the forthcoming campaign. Three hundred delegates from fifteen counties composed the convention. Rose Schneiderman, president of the Women's Trade Union League of New York was nominated candidate for the United States Senate. The state committee was authorized to name the candidate for governor.

Resolutions were passed calling

for impeachment of Attorney-General Palmer and Postmaster General Burleson; maximum 44-hour week; increased wages for postal workers; taxation of war fortunes; establishment of peoples' banks and co-operatives; cessation of war against Russia; and for self-determination by small nations.

The following platform was adopted:

1. Immediate restoration of civil liberties guaranteed by the constitution.
2. Reduction of the high cost of living by bringing the farmer and the consumer into closer contact by co-operatives, by publicly owned market terminals, dehydration and milk stations, and by municipal distribution of necessities.
3. Making the housing problem a public utility, and the granting of credits for non-profit making construction.
4. State insurance for unemployment, illness, old age, etc.
5. Equal economic and political rights to all, irrespective of color, sex or creed.
6. Elimination of boss rule in the legislature and economy in administration by the adoption of the executive budget.
7. Democratization of education.
8. Protection of labor against the abuse of judicial power.
9. Submission of the eighteenth (prohibition) amendment to the U. S. constitution, to a referendum vote.
10. Initiative, referendum and recall on all public questions.

INVESTIGATION DEMANDED OF MATEWAN TRAGEDY BY SENATE COMMITTEE

The killing of 10 men at Matewan, W. Va., by a murderous band of representatives of the Baldwin-Felts detective agency, employed for years by the coal companies of the state to prevent the miners from organizing, commenced their attack on Mayor Cabel Testman, of that town, who protested against their attempt to usurp the laws of the state, and who fell mortally wounded, shot by the leader of the murderous hirelings. The shooting resulted in President John L. Lewis, of the United Mine Workers, telegraphing Governor Cromwell, requesting that he take prompt measures to "prevent further lawless activities by the murderous hirelings of the coal operators." In his wire he says:

"For years the terrible evils of this system has been pointed out, but this latest outrage indicates that little or nothing has been done to insure to peaceable citizens the right to live. Ten human lives have been sacrificed to this system and the blood of these ten men must be found on the hands of those who could prevent such murders, but who fail to do so."

"I desire once more to direct your attention to the failure of the state of West Virginia to afford protection to its citizens in the coal mining districts and to urge that policies be adopted and measures carried out that will prevent further lawless activities by these murderous hirelings of the coal operators."

President Gompers in a letter to Senator Kenyon, chairman of the committee on labor and education, asks that he have his committee investigate the killing of the ten men at Matewan, W. Va., by the representatives of the Baldwin-Felts detectives. His letter

in part follows:

"Then men were shot and killed by an armed band of men sent into the state by the order of and in the pay of private interests. The men who were killed were interested only in seeing that the statutes and the constitution of the state and of the United States were respected, according to the newspaper reports of the outbreak. I am of the opinion that the invasion of West Virginia by an armed band of men in the pay of absentee owners of West Virginia mining property constitutes a suspension of the constitutional guarantees."

"It will be remembered that a public official, testifying in the investigation of 1912-13 before the committee of which you are now chairman, swore that the constitution of the United States did not apply in West Virginia. It was brought out that miners had been kidnapped and given long sentences by drum-head court-martial. This official was not rebuked by West Virginia for his testimony as to its lawlessness. On the contrary, he was appointed by the governor of the state to be 'the impartial investigator of crime against the miners, their wives and their children,' in the mining camp of Guyan Valley, and this within the year."

"For a generation the only law in the mining camps of West Virginia, save in those few instances where the power of organized labor and outrage public opinion has forced a return to constitutional methods has been the law of the thug and the gunman disguised as deputy sheriffs and usurping the police power of the land. The blackjack and the pistol, the high-powered rifle and the machine gun have been substituted for statute law, judges and juries."

Some Points in the Report of the Executive Council of the A. F. of L.

The report of the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor reviewing the events in the trade union movement here and abroad in the last year and fore-shadowing the policies to be followed by the Federation in the future was read the first day of the convention at Montreal. The report begins with an acknowledgment of the heavy blows sustained by the labor movement since June last year in these words:

"The American nation and the American trade union movement have passed through a period of unthought storm and stress during the year . . . It has been compelled to struggle for the preservation of the liberties and freedom of democracy during a period in which the tides of reaction ran high. Against a wilful opposition on the part of men and institutions of great wealth and against the same opposition on the part of those allies with partisan political movements the trade union movement has struggled on in behalf of the rights of man."

The conclusion of the report is couched in a fighting strain showing reverses inflicted upon labor by the combined forces of government and capital. It reads, in part:

"In reviewing the work of the year we can say with confidence and truth that the efforts of the organized labor movement have been the means of withstanding the tide of reaction and the means of lightening the burdens of our country. . . . Our problems will not be lessened with the years to come. Policies to meet issues of the gravest and most far-reaching importance must be shaped. But viewing the past and the splendid statesmanship and accomplishments of our movement, we are confident of its future wisdom, and now for the five million mark."

Secretary Frank Morrison reports a substantial growth of the federation in wealth and members in the last year. The membership is the largest ever reported in the 40 years' record — 4,078,740. Counting the membership of five national and international unions now suspended, it would reach 4,509,213. The receipts for the year exceeded \$6,000,000, of which more than \$200,000 is still on hand.

The federation issued three new charters for international unions during the year; National Federation of Rural Letter Carriers, Order of Sleeping Car Conductors and the Brotherhood of Railroad Policemen.

The most phenomenal growth of any union during the year seems to be that of the United Textile Workers of America, which increased, according to the per capita tax paid, from 55,800 in 1919 to 105,900 in 1920. This union rises to the ninth in total membership within the federation, being just behind the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, which has 105,400 dues-paying members.

Figures showing data concerning the steel strike are especially interesting. The strike lasted three and one-half months, the cost was \$426,000, and 25 international unions were involved. At the begin-

ning, 365,000 went out; when the strike was called off 100,000 were still out.

The total cost of strikes during the year 1919 was \$3,347,000 including strike benefits and donations to other unions. Based on incomplete reports made to the secretary there were 1,255 strikes in the year involving 134,056 persons, of whom 587,479 obtained improved conditions.

Some unions spent very large amounts in death benefits; the comparatively small Cigarmakers' Union is near the head of the list with \$317,500. Other unions at the top in this tabulation are:

Street car men, \$560,000; carpenters, \$527,000; bricklayers, \$216,694; railroad telegraphers, \$200,000; painters, \$189,000.

Among the most interesting sections of the report are those dealing with reconstruction plans that the federation made in conjunction with the railroads and farmers. These were ignored by all government departments, the "non-partisan" political campaigners and the various industrial conferences called by the President in which labor both times met defeat. The chapter on construction demands that the industrial bark be brought to an even keel and discusses the Kansas court of industrial relations which may become the mainsail on the Republican party's ship of state, the high cost of living, labor legislation in which labor got what it didn't want in most cases, profiteering, Pan-American relations, international labor relations, being mainly an attack on the Socialistic labor movements abroad. (by far the biggest section in the report), some educational topics, a surprisingly bitter attack on the Democratic administration for the brutal suppression of the miners' and other strikes and the jurisdictional disputes.

The report of the executive council is a thorough resume of the attacks during the last year made by organized labor against the organized employing interests. In the statistical statements made by the various representatives detailing the individual fights of the unions against low pay and poor working conditions is contained in detail the outlines of the great principles for which organized labor, sometimes consciously, but for the most part unconsciously, is fighting for.

The report contains its year's history, the accounts of various bits of legislation against labor and, as a high light, mentions the anti-trust legislation, the Boston police strike, compulsory arbitration, the Kansas Court of Industrial Relations, Kentucky's syndicalism and sedition laws, and injunctions.

It also details constructive efforts, such as co-operative movements and battles in defense against these organized capitalist attacks.

That part of the report which outlines the grievances of labor, its protests and demands, says:

"The great victories for human freedom must not have been won in vain. They must serve as the instruments and the inspira-

tion for a greater and nobler freedom for all mankind."

"Autocratic, political and corporate industrial and financial influences in our country have sought, and are seeking, to infringe upon and limit the fundamental rights of the wage-earners guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States."

"Powerful forces are seeking, more and more aggressively, to deny to wage-earners their right to cease work. We denounce these efforts as vicious and destructive of the most precious liberties of our people. The right to cease work — strike — is a final means of enforcing justice from an autocratic control of industry, must be maintained."

"The autocratic attitude and destructive action of the United States Steel Corporation and its subsidiary branches to oppress the workers by denying them the exercise of their freedom of action, freedom of association, freedom of expression, must give way to better understanding and relation and to secure the wage-earners in the exercise of their rights and liberties as free workers and citizens."

"We realize fully all that is involved in the exercise of the rights to strike, but only by the exercise of that right can industrial autocrats be compelled to abandon their tyranny and give way to the establishment of freedom and justice in industry."

"American labor sets for itself the task, gladly and proudly assumed, to preserve and perpetuate this standard of justice and measure of liberty."

Touching on the President's industrial conference, in which it was sought to reconcile the differences between the employing interests and the workers by way of a commission on which there was a representative of "the public," the report says:

"We protest against the attitude and action of the majority of the representatives of the employers in the employers' group who participated in the President's industrial conference, October 6-23, 1919."

"The proposals which the representatives of labor submitted to that conference were conservative, conservative and helpful. They were calculated to establish a working basis for the promotion of better relations between employers and workers — the right to organize, the right to collective bargaining through representatives of the workers' own choosing. The representatives of the public constituted as a group endorsed and voted for that principle. By a small majority the employers' group voted against it, and thus the proposals were defeated and the conference failed."

Repeating the age-long complaint of labor against the use of the injunction against strikes, which, during the last year, has been particularly effective in the hands of President Wilson's Cabinet members, the report continues:

"The paramount issues that concern all the people of the United States, and in particular the wage-earners, are the perversion and the abuse of the writ of in-

junction and the necessity for full and adequate protection of the voluntary associations of wage-earners organized not for profit."

"Government by injunction has grown out of the perversion of the injunction process. By the misuse of that process workers have been forbidden to do those things which they have a natural and constitutional right to do."

"The injunction as now used is a revolutionary measure — which substitutes government by judicial discretion or bias for government by law. It substitutes a trial by one man, a judge, in his discretion, for a trial by jury. This abuse of the injunctive process undermines and destroys the very foundations of our free institutions. It is subversive of the spirit of a free people working out their destiny in an orderly and rational manner."

"Because we have reverence for law, because we believe that every citizen must be a guardian of the heritage given us by our fathers who fought for and established freedom and democracy, by every lawful means we must resist the establishment of a practice that would destroy the very spirit of freedom and democracy. Our protest against the abuse of the writ of injunction and its unwarranted application to labor in the exercise of labor's normal activities to realize laudable aspirations is a duty we owe to ourselves and to posterity."

"Formerly injunctions issued in labor disputes were of a prohibitive character. Within the recent past this abuse of the injunction writ has been enlarged to include mandatory orders whereby men have been compelled to do specific things which they have a lawful right to refrain from doing."

"We declare these abuses in the exercise of the injunction writ are clearly violative of the Constitution and that this issue must be determined definitely in accordance with the guarantees of the Constitution of the United States."

Workers are free citizens, not slaves. They have the constitutional right to cease working. The strike is a protest against autocratic management. To penalize strikers or to make them unlawful is to apply an unwarrantable and destructive method when a constructive one is available. To reduce the necessity for strikes, the cause should be found and removed. The government has a greater obligation in this matter than to use its coercive powers."

"Legislation which proposes to make strikes unlawful or to compel the wage earners to submit their grievances or aspirations to courts or to governmental agencies, is an invasion of the rights of the wage earners and when enforced makes for industrial serfdom or slavery."

"We hold that the government should supply information, assistance and counsel, but that it should not attempt by the force of its own power to strangle, or to destroy voluntary relations and policies of mutuality between employers and employees."

"We specifically denounce the anti-strike provisions of the Cummins bill and all similar proposed legislation as un-American, as being vicious in character, and establishing by legislation involuntary servitude."

Attacking the anti-strike machinery established by legislation to the last year the executive council

(Continued on Page 7)

JUSTICE

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EDITORIALS

WHY MONTREAL?

It is yet too early to say anything about our impressions of the Fortieth Annual Convention of the A. F. of L. which opened on Monday, June 7, in St. Dennis Theatre, Montreal, Canada. Meanwhile a few general remarks will suffice.

In spite of the drizzling rain and cold the delegates and visitors came pouring into the large theatre which was soon filled to capacity. The fall weather would have been sufficient reason for damning the Executive Council of the A. F. of L., had there not been one redeeming feature which more than compensated the inconveniences of the weather. It was the fact that Canada was free from the Prohibition law. At the opening of the convention it was luminously evident that this fact alone everything else was the prime motive why Montreal was chosen as the place for the convention. The other reasons, as the desire to demonstrate the solidarity of the labor movement, was by far not as convincing and impelling a motive as the chance of having a drink. Most speakers, with the possible exception of the chaplain who gave a most impressive prayer, emphasized this point.

THE OPENING ADDRESS OF SAMUEL GOMPERS

In his opening address at the convention in Montreal Gompers expressed the same fundamental idea as he did a year ago at Atlantic City. It was that we must keep time with the most backward elements in the labor movement, that we must hold ourselves in check and use power with moderation. But in his speech at Atlantic City he attacked the industrial bourgeois who have learned nothing and have forgotten nothing, in his Montreal address he violently attacked the radicals. He accused them of inconsistency. There was a time, Gompers said, when the radicals regarded the strike as an obsolete, useless weapon. Now they are ardent supporters of the strike while the employers reverted to the erstwhile cry of the radicals that the strike is to be done away with.

No one, of course, controverted his arguments. We therefore call the attention of the President of the A. F. of L. that he did not state the position of the radicals fairly.

It is true that the radicals regarded the strike as a means not leading to the goal of labor. But they had in mind individual, scattered strikes conducted by separate labor bodies so that very often one group of workers were scabbing on another group. But even then the radicals were heart and soul for strikes in an entire industry, for great, impressive strikes that are bound to be vic-

torious. They have not changed their position. They still hold fast to this opinion. And if they had an opportunity to reply they would rightly claim that Gompers has somewhat misinterpreted their position.

INTERNATIONAL AND INTERNATIONALISM

Samuel Gompers complained in his opening address that the international unions affiliated with the A. F. of L. are often confused with the Internationale as it exists in Europe. No organization, said Gompers, is so far away from the Internationale as is the A. F. of L. And he went on to explain the meaning of the internationals affiliated with the A. F. of L. Take, for instance, the carpenters of the U. S. They form an organization to protect their interests. There are also carpenters in Canada who have the same interests. Is it not therefore right that they should form one international union?

Very true. But is not this the very same idea of that terrible Internationale? The fundamental idea of the Internationale is that the interests of the workers the world over are identically the same. That they are exploited and oppressed and that they must unite, internationally unite, to meet the common enemy. Are not the internationals affiliated with the A. F. of L. dominated by the same spirit? The very fact that fraternal delegates from England visit the convention of the A. F. of L. is a striking illustration of this. What other meaning can you give to the presence of the delegates from the British Trade Union Congress? The very fact that Gompers visited many countries in Europe and participated in the various labor congresses is a clear demonstration of this fundamental idea of the Internationale. It is true, of course, that there are different interpretations of the Internationale from that of Gompers or the Federation, but this does not in the least affect the idea of the common solidarity of labor.

THE REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF THE A. F. OF L.

The Report of the Executive Council to the convention of the A. F. of L. is a bulky volume of 240 closely printed pages. It contains the history of the American labor movement during the past year, as seen by the Executive Council. A great deal of it is of tremendous interest to every thinking person. Much of it will be submitted to the consideration of the convention. What is of particular significance, however, is that the position of the Executive Council to the question of political

prisoners has markedly changed. To quote from the Report:

"The experience of being compelled to detain large numbers of people for what in European countries have long been known as political offenses, an experience practically new to the United States and hitherto unexperienced by the present generation.

"The necessities of war, however, made it a question of national safety to imprison those who violated the emergency statutes of war time. The congress enacted an espionage law for the protection of the Republic from enemies within its gates and under this act numbers of people were detained as a war precaution.

"In the tense hour of warfare, sentences were imposed which were easily justified under the unusual circumstances of national peril, but which, as was to have been expected, have lost their meaning with the return of peace.

"Sentences were imposed during the tense months of war which were thoroughly justified under war conditions. The life of the nation was at stake. We do not condone the conduct of those who sought by any means to make more difficult the progress of our government toward victory. We condemn those activities as severely now as during the war.

"But we believe that many still detained in prison have satisfied justice and should be released. We believe this is in harmony with the thought of our people. We see no cause to be served by detaining further those whose violation of the espionage law was by speech or writing in the expression of views.

"The principal nations of Europe have already pursued the course here indicated. America is unaccustomed to such problems and it is undoubtedly for the reason that our authorities have hesitated to take a step which is regarded as but natural in those countries where the problem is an old and common one.

"It is not democratic to inflict continued punishment for the mere sake of punishing. Despicable as was the conduct of many of those still imprisoned, we shall not build wall for our Republic if we allow ourselves to build upon resentment. We believe the welfare of our country and the nobility of our institutions call upon us to urge the release of those political prisoners held for the expression of views and whose detention has already satisfied the ends of justice and the safety of our Republic."

We cannot of course agree with the way the demand for the release of political prisoners is formulated. We do not believe that the Executive Council really scorns the political prisoners. Presumably the Executive Council thinks this the only proper way to petition in behalf of the political prisoners.

THE G. E. B. MEETING AT MONTREAL

The meeting of the General Executive Board of the International was considerably delayed by the will of the Canadian immigration authorities. Three of our vice presidents and the present writer were held up at the border of the United States and Canada. One of our vice presidents who has forgotten to take along his citizen papers admitted that he was born in Galicia which was once a part of Austria. That, of course, aroused the suspicion of the im-

migrant officials. We were held at Rouse's Point, until Brother Launch of Montreal came and rescued us.

The sessions of the Board therefore began Saturday morning instead of Friday.

The first question of the meeting was the resolution adopted by our convention in Chicago to establish a special organization department. The General Executive Board was instructed by the convention to work out a definite plan of action. Just what plans are to be pursued was the subject of a long and heated debate. Two opinions prevailed. One was that all centers where garments are made should be subdivided into districts under the control of district managers. The other opinion was that only the most important centers should first be organized. The questions of methods to be employed was another controversial point. There was an opinion that methods for the organization campaign cannot be laid down beforehand, that what is important is to appoint a general organizer who under the control of the President and the General Executive Board should be free to employ methods as conditions will warrant. After devoting an entire session to this question, the following decisions were adopted:

To establish a special department to deal with the corset industry.

A special organizer should be appointed for Baltimore.

The appointment of an organizer for the entire raincoat industry.

A special organizer for the garment trades in Chicago which are so far unorganized.

A special organizer for Canada. A vigorous organization campaign to be undertaken in the hand embroidery industry.

The same is true with the factory workers. Wherever possible the organization campaign should be tirelessly conducted.

A committee of the Montreal Joint Board consisting of Brothers Launch, Libert and Goldberg, appeared before this session of the Board asking for the appointment by the International of a French organizer for the numerous French speaking workers in Canada. They also asked that our press have a special French edition of one of our papers every month containing a few columns of organization matter in French. The Board will, very likely, act upon this request favorably.

The second session took place Saturday afternoon. This was a much more stormy session. The Board was to take a definite step toward the formation of an alliance of the needle trades' organizations, according to the instruction of our convention.

In theory, it is true, there was agreement that such an alliance should be formed but the details evoked considerable difference of opinion. Some members of the General Executive Board were of the opinion that such an alliance would meet with opposition of the A. F. of L. and they therefore insisted that the Board should definitely limit and define the nature of the proposed alliance. Another opinion was expressed that the Report of G. E. B. as well as the convention clearly defined the nature of such an alliance, namely, that each Union retain its full autonomy, and that only in general organization work, strikes, etc. should all the unions act jointly.

The Board, then decided to se-

Impressions of Our Chicago Convention

By S. YANOFKY

I have not at hand the complete list of contributions which the convention donated for the various causes and institutions. Then I am leaving out the number of propositions that were left over for the General Executive Board. Nevertheless the list is fairly long. Here are some of the chief contributions:

The "Avanti," a daily	\$5,000
Italian labor Lyceum	5,000
Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society	5,000
Amnesty campaign	1,500
New York Call	2,000
Naturalization Aid League	500
Rand School	500
New Majority	500
Metal Workers' Strike	500
Los Angeles Sanitarium	500
Workers' Day Nursery of Chicago	300
Jewish Socialist Movement in Chicago	300
Kropotkin Literary Society	200
Ferrer School, Stelton, N. J.	300
Frei Arbeiter Stimme	300
Laundry Workers	150
N. Y. Harbor Strike	150
Federated Press	100
Strike of Tailors in Warsaw	1,500
Two days work for the relief (estimated)	1,000,000

Altogether the contributions of the convention amount to 1,325,000 dollars. But it is not the great sum of money that counts so much. A powerful organization can afford to give with a lavish hand when the time and conditions demand. What is more important is the spirit in which the contributions were made.

Read again the relatively incomplete list of the contributions and you will understand what I mean. You will realize that our International sees the importance of institutions and undertakings with which the large membership may not be in full agreement.

Judging by the contributions, it is difficult to determine where the sympathies of the International lie. Take, for instance, the following two contributions: Frei Arbeiter Stimme, 300 dollars; the New York Call, 2,000 dollars; The Frei Arbeiter Stimme is an anarchist weekly paper; the New York Call is a Socialist daily. Yet the contributions are relatively the

least a committee of five representing the International to the conference of the needle trades' organizations which will be held in the near future.

The Joint Board of the Cloak-makers and other locals of the garment trades in Montreal have arranged a splendid banquet for Saturday evening. There were delicious things to eat, there was song and music, there was a lively and congenial spirit prevailing. J. Heller, the newly-elected vice president and secretary of Local 17, treated us with some of his union songs. To the New York crowd it was not new, but to the Montreal people, and particularly to Samuel Gompers who was present at the banquet, it was something surprisingly new and refreshing.

Samuel Gompers whose every minute is occupied still found time to be present at our banquet. He was received with great enthusiasm. And although it was de-

same. The same holds true with the Ferrer and Rand Schools.

I shall only touch briefly on the stand of the convention toward the political activity of our organization. Under political activity, I mean, everything that has no direct relation with the prime aims of the International. Our Organization is not a political body. It is primarily a trade union which is conducting a daily fight for the betterment of the conditions of our large membership.

Such organizations, it is true, often suffer from shortsightedness. The International, however, cannot be classed with this type of organizations. Not only has the International adopted clear and vigorous resolutions, resolutions with teeth, against the reactionary forces, but it has expressed its sympathy, as for the Socialist and amnesty campaigns, by actual contributions.

Regarding political activity in the narrowest sense, attention should be called to the following:

Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, could not come to greet the convention in person. He therefore sent a letter which is in part as follows:

"Permit me to express my earnest good wishes for the success of your convention and the hope that your convention may make a clear-cut declaration in support of the American Federation of Labor Non-Partisan Political Campaign."

Samuel Gompers is universally regarded with profound respect which he doubtless earned thru his long years of service. The International is a part of the A. F. of L. and if it had adopted the A. F. of L. policy its prestige would have grown a 100 per cent. President Schlesinger would have become a member of the Executive Council, an office to which he is entitled as the president of the fourth or fifth largest international in the A. F. of L. But practical considerations are of no weight when it is a question of principle.

In fact the Committee on the Officers' Report have effectively stated the attitude of the General Executive Board toward this ques-

tion. It is in part said: "Your committee wishes to express its gratitude toward the proper stand taken by G. E. B. toward political activity." The well-known phrase: "Reward your friends and punish your enemies" has done a great deal of harm to the labor movement. The working class, if it is to succeed in abolishing the enslaving laws, must declare its independence on the political field as well as the economic. The working class must realize that nothing is to be expected from the legislatures as they are now constituted. The workers must pursue the true principles of the working class.

The political stand of the International, endorsing Eugene V. Debs as the standard bearer of the workers of this country, will not please Gompers, and will alienate our organization from the A. F. of L. The International will become a sort of step-child. Schlesinger, of course, could not under these circumstances expect new honors from the A. F. of L.

The delegates of Local 45, 48, 80 and 89 introduced the following resolution which clearly expressed the protest of the convention against the prevailing reaction:

"Whereas, men of character, integrity and great civic worth, at the founding of this nation, pledged themselves to, and signed the following: "We hold these truths to be self-evident; that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. "That to secure these rights governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed; that whenever any form of government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the right of the people to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to affect their safety."

"Therefore be it Resolved, that this convention reaffirm its admiration for the men who launched this immortal document to the world, and who stood unflinchingly by it that the nation might be born, and that individually and collectively we reassert our allegiance to this declaration and its principles, and that politicians, ambitious and mediocre, be given to understand that the Declaration of Independence still lives."

According to the various rumors of tendencies and movements of "councils" and welfare leagues in our Union, there should have been some echo of it all at the convention. I expected resolutions and speeches to that effect. But not the slightest ripples of it were evident.

How is this to be explained? There must be some critics, outside the organization, who, for some reason or other, delight in fault-finding. They will try to explain it as a case where one dominating individual has whipped the convention into an apparent harmony by an iron hand ruth-

lessly suppressing everything subversive to him.

There are a few cases, however, which show to what extent the uncompromising, rebellious spirit expressed itself at the convention.

Case No. 1. A delegate of Local 15 refused to become a member of a Relief Committee on the ground that the delegate was opposed to charity.

Case No. 2. Another delegate of Local 15 opposed the establishment of cooperative shops and stores on the ground that such an undertaking is contrary to the spirit of the class struggle.

Case No. 3. A resolution was introduced urging the International to withdraw from the A. F. of L. which was characterized by the delegate as a "stronghold of capitalism." President Schlesinger has rightly pointed out the insolence and baselessness in characterizing the A. F. of L. as a "stronghold of capitalism." The convention, of course, unanimously voted down this resolution.

Case No. 4. A resolution was introduced by a delegate who was given the opportunity to explain and amplify it. The resolution is exceedingly revolutionary. It is as follows:

"Whereas the so-called 'Peace Protocol,' 'Council of Conciliations,' 'Board of Arbitration,' with their 'impartial' chairmen, which prohibit strikes, are instruments in the service of the bosses to suppress the workers, therefore be it resolved that the Fifteenth Biennial Convention of the International, held at Chicago, declares itself against all agreements and instructs the incoming General Executive Board to change it so that strikes and stoppages should under no conditions be prohibited. The workers must at all times have their only weapon—the strike."

As President Schlesinger pointed out, this resolution would at least be logical if it opposed unconditionally any and all agreements between employers and workers. But the constant readiness to strike and the support of agreements is like asking for "hot ice cream."

The resolution committee recommended the rejection of this resolution.

These are the cases which expressed the rebel spirit at the convention.

THE WEEK'S NEWS IN CUTTERS' UNION LOCAL 10

By I. LEWIN

We hereby wish once more to call the attention of our Cloak and Suit cutters to the Special Meeting of their branch which will take place on Monday, June 14, 1920, at Arlington Hall, 23 St. Marks Place. The importance of the question that will be decided there, namely, whether this Union shall change the form of affiliation with the Joint Board, is such, that we want all members working in cloak and suit houses to be present at that meeting, for while it affects, indirectly, the Union as a whole, it concerns the Cloak and Suit cutters mainly. The meeting will begin at 7.30 P. M. sharp.

The meeting of the Miscellaneous Division of the month of June was postponed until July 19, 1920, and members in that division will guide themselves accordingly.

We also invite all the members of Local No. 10 to attend the next Special Meeting on Monday, June 28, 1920, where a report of our delegates to the last convention in Chicago of the I. L. G. W. U. will be rendered. The report promises to be interesting and will cause a great deal of discussion.

As is known to our members, the Furriers' International Union called its members in the city out on strike for the 40-hour week. We feel that this strike is not only the fight of the furriers, but of the entire needle industry. Just as the result of the fight over a year ago, of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers' Union for a 44-hour week affected favorably our own strikes in the Waist and Dress and Cloak and Suit industries, so will the outcome of this furriers' strike help put the ladies' garment industry on a 40-hour week basis.

It behooves every member of our Union to help them in every manner possible. We therefore appeal to our members, when going to work in the morning, or when going out for lunch and after work, to help and encourage the pickets.

The following are extracts from the Executive Board minutes of the past week:

Harry Grunner, No. 9781 appeared. Brother Grunner appeals against the decision of Business Manager Shenker in refusing to issue a working card to him for the house of Seltzer & Goldberger, 4 West 22nd St. Brother Shenker states that Brother Grunner joined the Union in 1915 as a cloak cutter; also, that the house of Seltzer & Goldberger has had considerable trouble with the Cutters' Union, by employing its own cutters and also had its cutters working on Saturday afternoons and Sundays, and that the office decided to have only men sent from the Union to work in that shop. Upon motion, the decision of the office was sustained.

Joseph Granick, No. 5595 appeared on summons, charged by Business Agent Settle with having received time and a half for overtime and with working on Saturday afternoons and Sundays at the Sellable Dress Co., 132 W. 22nd St. A collection of \$125 was made in this case. Brother Granick was fined \$25 by the Executive Board on Aug. 28, 1919, for working on Saturday afternoons for the above house. He then appealed to the body on January 12, 1920, and the body decided to re-

duce his fine from \$25 to \$10, upon his plea that he was not guilty of the offense as charged. In view of his past record, the Executive Board decided to impose a fine upon this Brother.

Jacob Michaels, No. 1051 appeared on summons, charged by the office with failing, as the foreman of the shop of the Simplicity Dress Co., 22 W. 27th St. to give an equal share of work to Brother Isadore Shames, No. 5133A. Brother Michaels states that this house employs regularly a foreman and two cutters, as there is no more room than for three men, but when he, as foreman, grades patterns and therefore does no cutting, he usually hires a cutter in his own place. He further states that Brother Shames having worked two weeks while he was grading patterns, was then laid off. After a while, Brother Shames met him in the street, and needing a job badly, appealed to him to put him on to work. Brother Michaels, although not having any too much to do, took him on, upon condition that he does not force himself on the house for equal division of work. He then worked two weeks and was again laid off, after which he was put on for another four days. There were at that time the men came around and demanded an equal share of work. The firm refused to give it to him. Brother Michaels was instructed by the Executive Board that all work in the shop must be divided among all the cutters working there, including Brother Shames.

I. Markowitz, on application, appeared on summons, charged with being a member of the firm of the Uneda Dress Co., 13 East 16 St. Mr. Markowitz appeared before the Executive Board on May 20, 1920, asking permission to join this Union. The case was then left in the hands of Business Manager Shenker who permitted him to join the Union upon condition that he was to leave the above house. These last orders he failed to carry out. Upon motion, Secretary was instructed to have the application fee of Mr. Markowitz returned to him.

Chas. Feinsilver No. 6548 appeared on summons, charged by Business Agent Wilder with being a member of the Beverley Waist Co., 91 Allen St. A letter was received from our attorney, stating that Brother Feinsilver is a co-partner of the above concern. The Executive Board instructed Bro. Feinsilver that he will have to either quit the job in the above house by Saturday, June 5, 1920, or resign from the Union and hire a cutter, and if either of the courses is not pursued, he will stand expelled from our Union.

Joseph Fox, No. 78 appeared. Brother Fox states that upon his being reinstated at the house of Bros. Brous, where he worked the previous season, the firm failed to pay him the increase of \$5 per week, and he now wants the Executive Board to see that he gets it. Upon motion the office was instructed to see that the firm pays said increase.

A communication was received from the Unity Committee of Loc. 25, extending an invitation to

our members to spend their vacation at their summer home which is located at Forest Park, Pa., for the months of June and August, when members of other unions will also be accommodated.

Bessie Kaplan, 78 Newport Ave., Brooklyn, appeared. Mrs. Kaplan states that she is a tenant in the house owned by Bro.

Max Spivack, No. 8714, and that he is insisting on her paying an exorbitant increase in rent. She therefore requests the Executive Board to call Brother Spivack and get him to agree to more reasonable terms. Upon motion Secretary was instructed to summons Brother Spivack for the next session of the Executive Board on Tuesday, May 8, 1920.

CUSTOM DRESSMAKERS' UNION, LOCAL 90

By H. SILVERMAN

The Custom Dressmakers' Union is not sending reports for publication very frequently, for the simple reason that it is in the habit of reporting only when something of special interest occurs.

Our last membership meeting was such an event, and it will be of interest to record it.

The meeting was called for the purpose of hearing to the reports of our delegates to our convention at Chicago. The large attendance showed that our members were intensely interested in the message the delegates brought from Chicago. As soon as the meeting was called to order and the routine was disposed of, the chairman called upon the delegates to report. The members paid close attention to every detail of the reports, and enthusiastically responded to the important decisions taken by the convention.

The decision of the International to build a sanatorium for those of our members who are unfortunately enough to be stricken with the proletarian disease was unanimously endorsed. The decision to establish co-operative shops and stores was heartily applauded.

The members received with great enthusiasm the decision of

amalgamating all needle industries in the United States and Europe. The resolution for the establishing of a general Organization Department, the 40-hour week, and other trade resolutions have received their unqualified approval.

After the delegates were thru with their reports, they were flooded with questions. Only after a thorough and detailed discussion of the various questions was the report of the delegates adopted.

The decision for the increased per capita was taken up together with the question of increasing the dues of our members. After a statement of the financial condition in our office was submitted to our members, they have decided to increase the dues from twenty to thirty-five cents. They realized that the expenses connected with the maintenance of an office, and the organization campaign calls for increased dues. They have demonstrated that they are willing to bear the responsibility of a great organization.

OUR WORKERS' UNIVERSITY AS SEEN FROM THE OUTSIDE

A striking illustration of what the Workers' University of the International means to the progressive thinking people outside the ranks of labor is furnished by a letter received by Fannia M. Cohn, vice president of the International, and secretary of the Educational Committee. Miss Ethel Verry, a student of the State University of Iowa, happened to read an article by Fannia M. Cohn on our Workers' University which was first printed in Justice (April 23, 1920), describing the new and by Miss Cohn that her own hopeful experiment of labor education.

Miss Verry was so impressed by the educational undertaking of the International as described by Fannia M. Cohn that her own university seemed pale and a thing of the past, and she asks Miss Cohn for advice as to how she can enter this new world. The letter is so typical a reaction of the idealistic and aspiring youth of America that we will reproduce it here.

"In your article on 'The Workers' University of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union' which appeared in 'Life and Labor' for March, 1920, I was very much interested in your qualifications for teachers in your Unity Centers—'attention is paid not only to their academic qualifications, but also to their experience or willingness to acquaint themselves with these problems,'

referring to the life and interests of the Union member.

"I want more than anything else to find a position in the Educational work of the Labor Movement. I will receive my B. A. degree in Economics and Sociology from the State University of Iowa this month, and I have been offered an Assistantship here for next year, which would enable me to go on and get more advanced degrees. But I have been thinking that it would be better for me to go to Chicago and work for a year or two in a clothing factory; and become a real Union member. There I would know what advanced work would be more valuable for me to take. I am dependent on my own resources for support but see no reason why I could not earn wages enough to live on—in a factory; and I feel that the experience would be worth more than a few years of teaching in a Conservative University.

"Of course, my friends consider the idea absolutely foolish; but I honestly want to get into the Labor Movement and can think of no other way. I know you must be very busy and feel that I am imposing on your kindness in writing you about my little personal problem; but I would surely appreciate any advice you could give me about the movement chances and ways in which I could be of service in the movement."

THE STAGE

By Frances Robbins

"ALL SOULS' EVE"

Build on the theme of mother love is "All Souls' Eve," at Maxine Elliott's Theatre.

"On All Souls' Eve," says Norah, the little Irish maid, the dead return to earth and mothers come back to comfort and love their little children.

With this to build on, the play should have made a universal appeal, but somehow the performance as a whole lacks conviction and reality. We feel that what we have witnessed on the stage is not a slice of real life, but a mere play, an artificial thing made up of words, studied gestures and properties. True, a few high lights relieve the tedium of the play and make it worth the sitting through. But these moments are unfortunately too few, while the weak spots are many.

As the play begins, it has interest, suspense and holds forth great promise of things to come. But the interest dwindles as the play goes on, and the last act seems to peter out in an ineffectual gasp.

The first act introduces Lola Fisher as Alison Heath, who is winsome, charming, demure and blends her personality into the part she plays and makes an adorable little mother, whose love makes bright the lives of all those about her. Through a misunderstanding, Mrs. Heath is induced to motor to New York to see Mr. Knox, Mr. Heath's employer and explain to him her reasons for her faith in her husband (Jim Heath has been falsely accused of submitting his architectural plans to a rival firm). Jim returns first, having missed his train. Alison Heath is brought back a few minutes later, dead—the result of an automobile accident. Jim's grief of genuine, real as is the grief of those of the household and of Dr. Alistair, a friend.

The second act pictures graphically the ruin into which Jim Heath sinks after the death of his wife. Without Alison to guide and inspire him, lonely, miserable, he turns to drink as a solace. Olivia Larkin, a woman of uncertain reputation is another contributing cause of his downfall. The home without the mother is no longer a home, merely a house. The baby, Peter, is a delicate youngster and is under the special care of Norah, a waif whom Mrs. Heath befriended on the day of her death. Altho Norah is devoted to the child, she is too ignorant to give the frail baby the care he needs.

"On All Souls' Eve," the spirit of Mrs. Heath returns to earth. A dim ghostly spirit, she tries to speak to Jim, but he doesn't hear her.

The scene in the nursery that same night is done realistically. Peter is very sick, and his strangled breathing strikes terror to the heart of every mother in the audience. Norah, tired out, has fallen asleep at the bedside. Jim, in despair, is helpless, for in a fit of anger he has driven away Dr. McAlister the best friend a family ever had. The spirit of Mrs. Heath calls on Norah, on Jim, to save her baby, to get the doctor, to do something, but they do not hear her. At last she arouses Norah, who in a wild effort to save the child, uses the hypodermic—little ignorant Norah who had never before dared to touch it. The doctor,

who arrives a moment later wondering tells Norah that it is she who has snatched Peter from death.

The last act takes place in Honolulu a year later. Jim has "come back"—is once more a man. Peter is strong and healthy—all due to the loving care and efforts of Norah. From the night of "All Souls' Eve," Norah seems to have absorbed the beautiful spirit of Mrs. Heath, even the mother soul of her. The resemblance between the two is striking and is evident to those who loved Mrs. Heath.

The play closes with Norah as Jim's promised wife.

The resemblance between Norah and Mrs. Heath is easily explained for Lola Fisher takes both parts. As Mrs. Heath, she is convincing, but as Norah, much less so. Miss Fisher does what she can with the part, but the second and third acts are so improbable, so unreal, that not even Lola Fisher can make Norah a living, breathing human girl.

Cyril Keightley as Jim Heath, is splendid in the first act, but he too gets artificial and stagey in the two subsequent acts.

Perhaps the best characterization is given by Clifford Dempsey as Sandy McAlister. He is real, all the way through. We have all known and loved his type; the man who grows and roars, but who beneath his outer gruffness, has a heart of pure gold.

Olivia Larkin, the intriguing neighbor, is played by Anne Paystone. Miss Paystone may be a clever actress, but she hasn't the personality to portray a designing woman. She doesn't look wicked—so she can't induce us to believe she is. Even her cigarettes seem incongruous.

Others in the cast are Leland Clandner, an appearing youngster, Eleanor Hutchinson as Katy, the "help," Walter Kingsford as Mr. Knox, and John Thorn as Tom Larkin, Olivia's husband.

The acting throughout is good, but not good enough to carry to great success a play which has so many utterly impossible situations.

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ST. LOUIS CLOAKMAKERS PRESENT NEW DEMANDS

(Continued from Page 1)

representatives of the Union and the manufacturers, took place on the following Wednesday morning in Statler Hotel. The representatives of the Union submitted to the manufacturers the demands of the cloakmakers. After a preliminary discussion of these demands the representatives of the manufacturers requested that they be given time until June 14 in which to transmit the demands to the manufacturers for their consideration and approval. This request was granted by the Union representatives. The committee of the manufacturers consisted of the following members: Charles Cohn, Jacob Handelman, F. Kling and F. Sultz. The Union was represented by President Schlesinger, Brothers H. Ginsburg, B. Gelbert and L. Hoffman.

All signs point to the conclusion that the controversy in St. Louis will be amicably settled. It seems that the manufacturers realize that an industrial conflict in the cloak industry of St. Louis will be far from beneficial to their interest. They perhaps realize that the forcing of a strike in the industry is too costly an experiment. For the St. Louis cloakmakers are prepared to strike if the manufacturers will not accede to their demands.

The visit of President Schlesinger to St. Louis created a holiday atmosphere among the cloakmakers there. This spirit prevailed at the mass meeting as we have seen. On Tuesday evening a fine banquet was arranged by the Joint Board of the Cloakmakers' Union. The banquet which has taken place in Statler Hotel was marked by its genial and lively atmosphere. All those present had an extraordinarily interesting time. It was a splendidly arranged affair.

The few days spent by President Schlesinger in St. Louis was an important event in the life of the organization there. He not only helped to formulate the demands of the cloakmakers but he

SOME POINTS IN THE REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF THE A. F. O. F. L.

(Continued from Page 3)

ell points with disgust and antagonism to the Kansas Industrial Courts law. It says:

"Kansas, which for many years startled the world with its liberal legislation, has turned reactionary. The Legislature of that state has enacted a law providing for a Court of Industrial Relations. It could well be named 'an act to establish involuntary servitude for the workers of Kansas' or 'an act to protect the financial interests of the owners of public utilities and all industries at the expense of their employees. But more harmful than all it destroys the right of collective bargaining, the gateway to industrial peace.

"The law covers practically every industry in the state of Kansas. It affects every person engaged in the work of preparing foodstuffs from their original state to the finished product, every one engaged in the production of clothing or wearing apparel in any stage of the process of converting it into the marketable product, every miner and every wood-chopper and every workman engaged in the production of fuel for any purpose.

"It affects the railroad men. If two or more persons engaged in these occupations refuse to accept an award by the Court of Industrial Relations they must either pay a fine or be sent to the penitentiary.

"It is a most sweeping law and is in violation of the Thirteenth Amendment of the Constitution of the United States. No matter from what unbearable conditions the workers are suffering they must accept them without question if the Court of Industrial Relations so decides. It is a relief of legislation in the fifteenth century establishing autocracy in industry by law."

has brought with him confidence that the entire International is with them in the fight to win these demands.

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NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETINGS

WAIST & DRESS Monday, June 14th.

SPECIAL CLOAK & SUIT: Monday, June 21st.

Special Order of Business:
Affiliation with the Joint Board of Cloak, Skirt and
Reefermakers' Union.

SPECIAL GENERAL: Monday, June 28th.

Special Order of Business:
Report of delegates to the Convention of the
I. L. C. W. U.

CLOAK & SUIT Monday, July 5th.

Meetings begin at 7.30 P. M.
AT ARLINGTON HALL, 23 St. Marks Place

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M. Stern,
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